

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11 TRSE-00 DODE-00
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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 04891

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: NATO, MASS, XA, UR, NAC
SUBJECT: NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL: FRENCH PROPOSAL
FOR NATO STUDY OF SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN
CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS.

REF: USNATO 4481

1. AT MAY 10 NAC UK PERMREP KILICK SAID LONDON
ENDORSES FRENCH PROPOSAL AND WILL BE HAPPY TO
PARTICIPATE. PREEMPTING PREVIOUSLY SET SILENCE PROCEDURE
DEADLINE (REFTEL) AND IN ABSENCE OF COMMENTS BY OTHER
PERMREPS, SYG LUNS CONCLUDED COUNCIL HAD APPROVED THE
FRENCH PROPOSAL.

2. WE ASSUME THAT ECONADS CHAIRMAN BILLY WILL RAISE
MATTER AT THAT COMMITTEE'S MAY 11 OR 25 MEETINGS
AND WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY GUIDANCE ON PROSPECTIVE
CONTENT AND TIMING OF US CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
PROSPECTIVE STUDY. WE NOTE THAT PERTINENT INFORMATION
ON 1977 SOVIET ARMS TRANSFERS IN CFR NO 18, MAY 3,
IS SUBJECT TO EXTENSIVE DISTRIBUTION LIMITATIONS BUT
HOPE A VERSION CLEARED FOR NATO RELEASE COULD BE PREPARED
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IN FAIRLY SHORT ORDER.

3. WASHINGTON AGENCIES MAY ALSO WILL TO GIVE CONSIDERATION
TO POSSIBLE UTILITY OF DEVOTING A SMALL PORTION OF THE
JUNE 15-16 ECONADS REINFORCED MEETING ON SOVIET
DEFENSE EXPENDITURES TO EXPERT DISCUSSION OF AT LEAST
THE SUPPLY SIDE OF SOVIET ARMS TRANSFERS TO NON-WARSAW

PACT RECIPIENTS.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: EARLY GUIDANCE. BENNETT

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NNN

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